Major Fungal & Viral Diseases in Orchids
Fungal Diseases

- Pythium and Phytophthora – Black Rot.
- Botrytis cinerea – Petal Blight.
- Glomerella – (Anthrachnose) Leaf Spot.
Problems Caused

- Pythium and Phytophthora rot bulb in cymbidiums, Oncidiums etc. and rot canes of Cattleya plants
- Glomerella – progressive deterioration of leaves usually associated with lighter or watery line across leaf
- Botrytis – small to large watery brown marks on flower parts.
Phytophthora of Cattleya Plant
Phytophthora of Oncidium Plant
Glomerella (anthracnose) of Paphiopedilum
Botrytis damage of Cattleya Flowers
Controls

• Regular spraying with leaf fungi inhibitor such as Mancozeb or Eco-Carb
• Remove by cutting off infected parts of plants with a sterilized knife and treat with appropriate fungicide.
• Phytophthora and Pythium – Fongarid or Previcur.
• Glomerella – Mancozeb or Zineb spray and paint cut with fungal paste.
Viral Infections

• Several viral diseases occur in orchids.
• Some of these virus cannot be tested and identified other than by electron microscope.
• Common viruses Cymbidium Mosaic Virus, Odontoglossum Ring Spot Virus and Orchid Fleck Virus (a rhabdovirus)
Virus Causes

- Biting Insect Pests.
- Poor cultural and plant hygiene.
- Orchid Shows.
- Poor purchasing choices.
Cultural Controls

• Practice good potting and dividing hygiene methods.
• Use sterilized cutting instruments.
• Segregate purchases until new growths appear and inspect for signs of virus.
• Vigilance within your collection for signs of disease.
Cultural Controls
Only known successful treatment method
OFV of Aerides Seedling

Vanilla Mecrosis Potiviridea
Cymbidium Mosaic Virus of Cattleya

Virus in Phalaenopsis Seeding
ORS Virus in Cymbidium Flower and Phalaenopsis Seedling
Cymbidium Mosaic Virus of Cattleya
Below Dend. kingianum in situ 1 hours walk from Civilization on NSW Mid North Coast
Newly Discovered Unidentified Fungi of Orchids.

*Funguy normii*

*shown in one of its natural environments*